

***TIPPECANOE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
September 6, 2011***

The Emergency Management Advisory Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Advisory Council members present were: Chairman Garry Smith, Council member John Basham, Commissioner David Byers, Captain Mike Frances, Dave Reagan, and Ron Wright. Also present: TEMA Director Wm. "Smokey" Anderson, Secretary Kay Muse.

Chairman Garry Smith called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Chairman Garry Smith moved to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2011 meeting as presented, seconded by Commissioner Byers; motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Anderson reported that all the work that has been done in the last few months has brought a lot of things together.

- There have been some upgrades in the radio room. Two new desktop computers have been installed and two of the existing laptops have new software upgrades so that the staff can read and reprogram the siren control boards. The old monitors have been replaced with a new larger monitor to increase the abilities in the radio room. Alpha pagers have been replaced with four air cards at a significant savings.
- At the fairgrounds, the cattle barn was available after the 4H-Fair and is being utilized to store TEMA equipment and vehicles. There are some concerns with security of the equipment at night so Commissioner Byers will research the cost of motion lights.
- There have not been any changes to the proposed budget since last month.
- There has not been anything finalized on the medical exams for TEMA staff, but several months ago they had come to a figure of \$50 for each exam.
- September is "National Preparedness Month". Due to the recent earthquake and hurricane, Director Anderson is planning a media campaign to encourage people to take steps to be prepared for natural disasters.
- The TEMA volunteers working at the Purdue football games are not considered volunteers since they are being paid by Purdue for those services. Technician Marty Webb stated that there are ten people working the games this year.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Chairman Garry Smith stated that there has been a short fall in available man hours and as a result a lot of tasks are either not getting done or being delayed. Work would be completed in a timelier manner with the assistant director and part time technician positions filled. Commissioner Byers stated that the assistant director position was filled at one time, but the decision was made leave it vacant when the previous person left the county. If the position were to be filled it would need to be re-funded. Dave Reagan asked if volunteers could be used at least 10 hours a week to move trailers or whatever else may be needed. Director Anderson stated that the volunteers all have full time jobs and families, so it is much easier to get them for an event than it is for routine assignments, but they do help when they can. Chairman Smith stated the justification for the assistant director position must be made at budget hearings

as this position is critical and if it is not filled there will be issues down the road. Commissioner Byers stated that the budget does not need extreme cuts as they have had to make in the past so there is some flexibility.

SIREN TEST

Director Anderson stated there were some issues two months ago with a couple of sirens. He stated that when the sirens were activated by TEMA two did not work, but did when activated by Purdue. Most of the sirens are very reliable, but a few seem to be worked on all the time. With the new software recently installed, he is hoping to improve whatever issues are going on with the sirens. He is looking to change antennas on the two sirens that did not work during the TEMA test and feels that something had to have happened to them, as they've been very reliable in the past. A tall building has been built between the siren and the TEMA control center downtown and he believes that could have caused the problems. He stated that they have talked to Federal Field Services in anticipation of narrow banding. It was stated that Purdue has already been setup with narrow banding and that all their sirens worked during testing.

Council member John Basham asked who does the maintenance and repairs on the sirens. Director Anderson stated that Long Electric is the vendor. Ron Wright stated that there are currently 70 sirens, 2 will be added, and 5 will be replaced around Purdue by the end of October 2011.

HAZMAT

Technician Marty Webb reported a fairly quiet month. He stated that staff went through some training and moved some equipment to the barn at the Fairgrounds. He also stated that the staff had been doing some cleaning at the barn as well. Commissioner Byers asked Mr. Webb if he would be cleaning out the Wildcat Creek Solid Waste District building. It was stated that he was working with Dave Heath, Director of Community Corrections, on getting a crew together but for now there has not been any cleaning done at the site.

NEW BUSINESS

- Dave Reagan moved to request the re-funding of the Assistant Director position, second by Captain Mike Frances; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- Commissioner Byers announced secretary Kay Muse will no longer be with the county as of the 8th of September; she has accepted a new position. He stated that she will be missed.
- Commissioner Byers stated that the 2011 Indiana State Fair queen is from the Tippecanoe county area and is the granddaughter of board member Jim Kesterson.
- Technician Marty Webb stated that they will assist with the traffic diversion plan, additional security, and safety throughout the Feast of the Hunters Moon. They will have a mobile command center set up as well.
- Technician Marty Webb stated that there will be a service held at the Riehle Plaza depot at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 11, 2011 for the 9/11 ten year anniversary.

Commissioner Byers moved to adjourn.